

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A wireless telephone system, having one or more wireless handsets and a base unit. Each handset has a handset transceiver, and the base unit has a base transceiver and a handset docking station, which has a wired interface. The base unit digitally communicates over an RF channel with a handset via its handset transceiver only if the handset has previously been initialized by the base unit. The handset is initialized via the wired interface when it is physically docked in the docking station.